

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SSM-03 SAB-01 OMB-01 EUR-12 /087 W

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R 161510Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2135

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 5186

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, XF

SUBJECT: COMMENTS BY AL OFFICIAL CONCERNING COLOMBO NONALIGNED
CONFERENCE

1. EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL IN AL SEC GEN RIAD'S OFFICE TOLD EMBOFF
APRIL 15 THAT GOE WATCHING WITH CONSIDERABLE APPREHENSION SYRIAN
EFFORTS TO OBTAIN ANTI-SINAI II DECLARATION AT COLOMBO NONALIGNED
SUMMIT. HE SAID PERMANENT NONALIGNED WORKING GROUP IN NEW
YORK HAS AGREED TO CONSIDER SYRIAN TEXT ON ME SITUATION FOR
PRESENTATION TO CONFERENCE. NEW YORK PERMANENT WORKING GROUP
HAS RECOMMENDED THAT ARAB STATES GET TOGETHER PRIOR TO ALGIERS
FOREIGN MINISTERS' PREPARATORY CONFERENCE IN JUNE TO AGREE ON
UNIFIED POSITION CONCERNING DECLARATIONS ON MIDDLE EASTERN
AFFAIRS. MEETING AMONG ARAB NONALIGNED STATES SCHEDULED
TO BE CONDUCTED IN CAIRO AT AL PERMREP LEVEL STARTING APRIL 17,
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ALTHOUGH FORMAL MEETING OF ARAB NONALIGNED STATES MAY TAKE PLACE

IN MAY PRIOR TO ALGIERS FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE. EGYPTIANS REPORTEDLY FEELING VERY DEFENSIVE IN FACE OF SYRIAN AND IRAQI EFFORTS TO CRITICIZE SADAT'S POLICY IN NONALIGNED FORUMS. IN ADDITION, ARAB RADICALS APPARENTLY BELIEVE THAT EGYPTIANS PULLED FAST ONE AT LIMA 1975 NONALIGNED SUMMIT TO BLOCK DISCUSSION OF EXPULSION OF ISRAEL FROM UN AND RADICALS HOPE TO PIN EGYPT DOWN IN ADVANCE TO A COMMON ARAB POSITION BEFORE ALGIERS AND COLOMBO CONFERENCES.

2. COMMENT: EGYPTIAN AL OFFICIAL IS NASSERIST AND CRITICAL OF RECENT FOREIGN POLICIES OF PRESIDENT SADAT. HE ARGUED THAT SADAT'S ATTACKS ON SOVIETS, ABROGATION OF FRIENDSHIP TREATY, AND GENERAL RAPPROACHMENT WITH USG REDUCING EGYPTIAN LEADERSHIP ROLE IN ARAB WORLD. HIS COMMENTS CONCERNING RADICAL ARAB MACHINATIONS TO PIN EGYPT DOWN TO COMMON ARAB STAND IN NONALIGNED FORUMS WAS MEANT AS ILLUSTRATION OF RECENT ABDICATION OF EGYPTIAN LEADERSHIP POSITION IN ARAB AND NONALIGNED RANKS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NONALIGNED NATIONS MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CAIRO05186
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760146-0021
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760455/aaaabtxi.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 MAY 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMENTS BY AL OFFICIAL CONCERNING COLOMBO NONALIGNED CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, EG, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006